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ACTION NODS-00

RELEASED IN FULL

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 /001 W  
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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6075

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NODIS DECAPTIONED  
CHEROKEEE.O. 12065:RDS-3 5/6/00 (GLEYSTEN, W.H.) OR-M  
TAGS: PINT, MILI, KS, US  
SUBJECT: KOREA FOCUS: MY DIFFICULTY IN SEEING GENERAL  
- CHUNREF: SECURE VOICE TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH EA/K RICH  
- OF MAY 2

1. (S) ENTIRE TEXT.

2. I FULLY CONCUR IN THE WASHINGTON VIEW -- I HAD INDEPENDENTLY COME TO THE SAME CONCLUSION -- THAT WE SHOULD CEASE TRYING TO PUSH CHUN DOO HWAN (M-R: CHON TU-HWAN) INTO SEEING ME. CHUN MUST BELIEVE THAT SEEING ME ON OUR TERMS WOULD SYMBOLICALLY ACKNOWLEDGE -- TO US AND HIS FELLOW COUNTRYMEN -- THAT HE IS PLAYING A POWERFUL ROLE INCONSISTENT WITH HIS PROTESTATIONS OF NON-INVOLVEMENT IN THE POLITICAL PROCESS. THE PRINCIPLE OF SEEING AMBASSADORS IS NOT AT ISSUE, BECAUSE HE SUMMONED THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR AT THE VERY TIME HE WAS SAYING HE SHOULD NOT SEE THE U.S. AMBASSADOR.

3. ACCORDINGLY, I HAVE ASKED BOB BREWSTER, JOHN WICKHAM, AND ALL MEMBERS OF OUR STAFFS TO DROP THE SUBJECT. IF  
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CHUN ASKS TO SEE ME, I WILL DO SO; IF HE DOES NOT, THAT IS THAT. IN ANY EVENT, BREWSTER WILL REMAIN IN TOUCH WITH CHUN, AND WICKHAM MAY OCCASIONALLY SEE HIM. APART FROM THESE PERIODIC CONTACTS, I BELIEVE WE SHOULD MINIMIZE THE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: CHARLES E LAHIGUERA  
DATE/CASE ID: 13 JAN 2012 201101232

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4. OUR FUTURE RELATIONSHIP WITH CHUN AND HIS ASSOCIATES  
WILL BE DIFFICULT ENOUGH WITHOUT THE CREATION OF UNNECES-  
SARY CONTESTS. WHETHER OR NOT I SEE HIM AT THIS TIME IS  
THE WRONG THING TO BE ARGUING ABOUT. GLEYSTEN

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